

REMARKS

An Information Disclosure Statement is submitted herewith.

In the Office Action dated May 11, 2005, claims 1 and 20 were objected to; and claims 1, 8-10, 16, 22, and 26-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 6,386,108 (Brooks).

Applicant acknowledges the indication that claims 2-7, 11-15, 17-21, and 23-25 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form.

Claims 2, 11-13, 17, and 23 have been amended from dependent form to independent form, with the scope of each of the claims remaining *unchanged*, to place these claims in condition for allowance. The only changes to claims 2, 11-13, and 17 are to their form to address the objection raised in the Office Action. These changes do not narrow the scope of the claims.

Amended claim 1 is not anticipated by Brooks, since Brooks does not disclose an electrically-activated well tool having a switch and an electrically-activated component coupled to the switch, in combination with an isolation apparatus having a blocking element that is able to block a signal having a second electrical polarity from reaching the switch in the well tool.

Newly added dependent claims 30 and 31 (which depend from claim 1) are also allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Independent claim 27 has been amended to recite the act of activating a clamp to electrically conduct in response to the electrical signaling of the second polarity having greater than a predetermined magnitude. This subject matter was indicated as being allowable in other claims.

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Amendment Dated August 8, 2005
Reply to Office Action Mailed May 11, 2005

In view of the foregoing, allowance of all claims is respectfully requested. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees and/or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 20-1504 (SHL.0232US).

Respectfully submitted,

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